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MONTANA SCHOOLS

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HARRIET MILLER
Superintendent

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The STUDY GUIDE IN ENGLISH, GRADES 9 - 12, now being printed, will be distributed to each Montana administrator and high school English teacher soon. Meanwhile, schools may use the Tentative Guide, which was little changed before approval in July by State Superintendent Harriet Miller and the State Board of Education as the official English course of study.

Tentative course guides to be distributed this fall for trial use and evaluation:

SCIENCE GUIDE FOR GRADES 1-6. . .SCIENCE GUIDE FOR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, grades 7-9. . .Study guides in science for BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS. . and STUDY GUIDE IN MATHEMATICS for grades 1-6.

Tentative mathematics guides for other grades will be ready by January, 1960.

The Language Arts Curriculum Committee has planned pilot projects for grades 1-3. Participating schools this year will analyze preliminary guides which, following revision next summer, will be available for statewide use in September, 1961.

Montana's school bus drivers were honored by the Montana Automobile Association in August for 21,000,000,000,000 pupil miles without a fatality. A handsome bronze placque is on display at Helena.

September 17 is CONSTITUTION DAY. The Montana Bar Assn. offers speakers for school assemblies and is providing school administrators with copies of "The Meaning of Communism," by Col. Harold J. Sullivan. . . Contact local Montana Bar Assn. members for details.

The Third Annual Pioneer Day Essay Contest, sponsored by the Department of Public Instruction in observance of Montana Pioneer Day, November 1, will be open to all 7th and 8th grade pupils. . . .1959 theme: Transportation in Montana Before 1900. Details to teachers soon.

Accreditation standards for elementary schools were adopted in July after a year of development work. The standards are designed to aid schools by establishing a reference for evaluating the education offered.

PIEGAN MEDICINE LODGE, a unique and historic film of possibly the last Blackfeet Sundance Ceremonial, is now available from the State Film Library. Director of Indian Education K. W. Bergan and Film Library Supervisor Russell Steen recorded the sound and activities in July, 1956, capturing scenes never before filmed and likely never to be repeated.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES:

County Superintendents met at Eastern Montana College of Education for a week-long conference coordinated by State Superintendent Harriet Miller. State Elementary Supervisor Robert Sando and Deputy State Superintendent Paul O'Hare also participated. . . .

"Problems of the Rural School Teacher", a 2-week seminar was conducted at Montana State University by Mrs. Winnafern Moore, State Rural School Supervisor. . . .

Guidance Supervisor Dolf Jennings lectured at Guidance Institutes at Montana State University and Washington State College, and at Guidance Workshops at Montana State College, Western Montana College of Education, Northern Montana College and Eastern Montana College of Education. . . .

State Music Supervisor A. W. Humphreys served as a staff member in music at Montana State University for the second summer. . . .

The education of exceptional children was the subject of a week's conference at Eastern Montana College of Education conducted by State Supervisor of Special Education Richard C. Schofer. . . .

A workshop in Indian education at Northern Montana College, co-sponsored by the College, the Department of Public Instruction and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, was part of the summer's duties of K. W. Bergan, Director of Indian Education. . . .

School lunch cooks from throughout the state were instructed at a workshop at Montana State College conducted by School Lunch Director L. L. Brown and Nutritionist Isabel McPhee. . . .

State Supervisor of Home Economics Education Flora Martin assisted with a Family Life Conference at Montana State University. . . .

"Secondary School Administration", a Montana State University summer session course, was taught by Director of Instructional Services William L. Erickson. . . .

Consulting and visiting lecturer services were also provided by Mrs. Moore at Eastern Montana College of Education, Mr. Sando at Western Montana College of Education, Mr. O'Hare at Montana State University, Mr. Schofer at Montana State University, and Film Library Director Russell Steen at Montana State University and Western Montana College of Education.

Transportation Director Parks Whitmer, with Montana Highway Patrol cooperation, conducted a three-day conference for school bus drivers at Montana State College. . . .

The Vocational Education Division assisted with the annual conference of the Montana Vocational Association at Helena, held in conjunction with Vocational Education's in-service training program. Conference theme was "Blueprint for Action."

October 1, February 1 and May 1 are deadlines for applications for funds for NDEA-III programs in science, mathematics and modern foreign languages. Of 30 Montana schools receiving NDEA funds to date, 20 are improving instruction in science. . .5 in languages. . .and 5 in combinations of languages, science and mathematics.

A PURCHASE GUIDE FOR PROGRAMS IN SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES, compiled by the Council of Chief State School Officers, is an unofficial but useful equipment list. A free copy is being sent to each district superintendent from the Department of Public Instruction. . additional copies, $3.95, Ginn & Co.

Plan Ahead. . .March 28-29, 12th Annual Administrators' Conference, Department of Public Instruction. . .March 30-31, County Superintendents' Conference, also at Helena.

The 1959 SUPPLEMENT TO THE 1957 SCHOOL LAWS will be available soon from Tribune Printing Company, Great Falls.

Films accompanied by study guides are now available from the State Film Library on an experimental basis. All subjects and grades are included in the trial program, designed to increase the value of films.

Special education for exceptional children is being studied by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. Under survey are the West's needs for special education teachers and its resources for training them. Montana is the only state represented by a top official on WICHE's Study Advisory Committee, with State Superintendent Harriet Miller serving with six other members for the 11 western states.

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES of the state office have been expanded:

In May, William L. Erickson, formerly High School Supervisor, became Director of Instructional Services and NDEA Coordinator. . . .

In June, Maynard A. Olson, Whitehall superintendent, assumed the duties of State High School Supervisor. . . .

The new post of Science Supervisor, under NDEA, was filled July 1 by Clark W. Fowler, Broadus superintendent. . . .

Lester W. McKim, Seattle teacher, arrived in August for the new NDEA position of Foreign Language Supervisor. . . .

Mac Johnson, administrator of the Montana Aeronautics Commission's aviation education program, joined the Department of Public Instruction as a result of an agreement between the aeronautics and education agencies to operate the 13-year-old aviation education program under the Department of Public Instruction, financed by the Aeronautics Commission, for better integration with the school curriculum.

State Guidance Services under NDEA-V are being expanded under the direction of Deputy State Superintendent Paul T. O'Hare. Field Supervisor of Guidance Services is Dolf Jennings.

CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS IN MONTANA, a 16-page booklet containing complete details on certification laws and policies, is now available; copies are being sent to every teacher and administrator in Montana.

Betty Lou Hoffman, assistant to the State Home Economics Supervisor, is on a leave of absence to study for a Master's Degree at Michigan State University, where she holds a graduate teaching assistantship. . . .

Homemaking teachers who attended the Montana Vocational Assn.'s conference received a supplement to the Clothing section of the GUIDE FOR TEACHING HOMEMAKING. Teachers may borrow pattern shells for teaching alterations; details from Home Economics Education Supervisor Flora Martin.

State Correspondence School services, recently reduced due to financial restrictions, are now directed by High School Supervisor Maynard Olson, with acting director Mrs. Winnafern Moore resuming her duties as Rural School Supervisor and Director of the Textbook Library.

The Conservation Education program, operated since 1957 by the Department of Public Instruction with financial assistance from the Montana Fish and Game Commission, has been discontinued due to lack of funds. The publication of CONSERVATION TIPS has been suspended. While no legisiative appropriation was made to permit the continuation of the program, the Department of Public Instruction urges teachers to continue with conservation education to the extent possible until future means can be found for resuming the program and integrating conservation into the curriculum.

Management training, a two-year program, is now available at Dawson County Junior College, Glendive, co-sponsored by D.C.J.C. and the Vocational Education Division of the Department of Public Instruction.

A $100 U. S. Savings Bond will be awarded the state winner in the 25th Annual NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST. . .details from Essay Department, V.F.W. Auxiliary, 406 W. 34 St., Kansas City 11, Missouri.

Vote in the National Flower Election! The Florists' Telegraph Delivery Assn. invites Montana teachers and students to help select a floral emblem for the U. S. Results of the poll, to be conducted in October by FTDA shops, will be sent to Congress for consideration.

Sixty-five new large-print textbooks are being added to the Sight-saving Library for loan to schools with visually-handicapped children, bringing the library's total collection to about 1,900 books. For loan information, contact Special Education Supervisor R. C. Schofer.

Montana high school enrollments in foreign languages, science and mathematics increased significantly last year. Samples: languages, up 33%. . .biology, up 20%. . .physics, up 11%.

The possibilities of an experiment in televised teaching for rural schools are being explored by the state office as a means of supplementing classroom teaching in one-room and two-room schools. More later.

THURBER'S HELENA